

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

OZAWA et al.

Atty. Docket No. 100725-00119

Serial No.: To Be Assigned

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Filed: Herewith

Art Unit: To Be Assigned

For: WHEEL BEARING DEVICE AND METHOD OF
MANUFACTURING THE SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Director of the U.S. PTO
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: February 23, 2004

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the information item(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each item(s) is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the item(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application, OR (c) accompanies a Request for Continued Examination. No certification or fee is required.
- ☐ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

- ☐ c. A check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
- ☐ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
- ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).
- ☒ 4. The reference(s) was/were cited by or submitted to the Office in parent application No. 10/024,489, filed December 21, 2001, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these references are not attached. 37 CFR § 1.98(d).

Respectfully submitted,


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FORM PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 100725-00119	SERIAL NO. New Appln.
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>		APPLICANT OZAWA et al.	
		FILING DATE Herewith	GROUP

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA	4,179,167	Dec. 18, 1979	LURA et al.	308	189	Dec. 21, 1977
	AB	4,707,034	Nov. 17, 1987	GERSTNER et al.	301	6	Nov. 25, 1985
	AC	6,146,022	Nov. 14, 2000	SAHASHI et al.	384	544	Dec. 24, 1998
	AD	6,280,096 B1	Aug. 28, 2001	MIYAZAKI et al.	384	544	Jan. 16, 1998
	AE	6,422,758 B1	July 23, 2002	MIYAZAKI et al.	384	544	Aug. 18, 2000
	AF	6,428,214 B2	Aug. 6, 2002	TAJIMA et al.	384	544	Nov. 30, 2000
	AG	6,478,471 B2	Nov. 12, 2002	ISHIDA et al.	384	537	Dec. 18, 2000
	AH	6,491,440 B1	Dec. 10, 2002	SAHASHI et al.	384	544	Sept. 20, 2000
	AI	6,497,515 B1	Dec. 24, 2002	SAHASHI et al.	384	544	June 12, 2000
	AJ	6,523,909 B1	Feb. 25, 2003	NAKAMURA et al.	301	105.1	Feb. 16, 2000
	AK	6,524,011 B2	Feb. 25, 2003	MIYAZAKI et al.	384	544	July 27, 2001

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO PART.		

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	